



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,359	01/18/2002	Mitsuru Asano	09792909-5303	9291
26263	7590	07/09/2004	EXAMINER	
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP P.O. BOX 061080 WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080			KUMAR, SRILAKSHMI K	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2675	
DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/051,359	ASANO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Srilakshmi K. Kumar	2675	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Walsh (US 6,351,327 B1).

As to independent claim 1, Walsh discloses a display (col. 1, lines 6-10, col. 2, lines 38). In col. 2, line 38, Walsh discloses an active display area, and as shown by Fig. 2a, a matrix type display; further comprising, a substrate (col. 4, lines 6-15); a device layer overlying the substrate (col. 4, lines 6-15), comprising luminescent devices defining pixel units arrayed in a matrix (col. 3, lines 10-24); a circuitry layer overlying the substrate (col. 4, lines 38-49, col. 5, lines 53-67), comprising pixel circuits for driving the respective luminescent devices (col. 4, lines 38-49, col. 5, lines 53-67), the pixel circuits defining the pixel units (col. 4, lines 38-49, col. 5, lines 53-67); and contacts, each positioned at the exterior of the emitting area of each pixel unit in the device layer and electrically connecting the corresponding luminescent device with the corresponding pixel circuit (col. 5, lines 53-67).

As to independent claim 6, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, an organic layer including a luminescent layer and lying between the upper electrode and the lower

electrode. Walsh discloses in the abstract where Indium Tin Oxide, which is an organic substance, is sandwiched between the layers.

As to dependent claim 4, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, wherein the luminescent devices are organic electroluminescence devices, each comprising a first electrode, a second electrode and an organic layer including an luminescent layer and lying between the first electrode and the second electrode (col. 1, lines 10-24, col. 4, lines 6-15, 38-49, col. 5, lines 35-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 2, 3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walsh (US 6,351,327 B1) in view of Brody (US 4,982,273).

As to dependent claim 2, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, wherein the contacts are arrayed in a single dimension for each row or column in the matrix. Walsh does not disclose where the contacts are arrayed in a single dimension for each row or column in the matrix. In a similar field of endeavor, Brody discloses a flat screen color display comprising an active matrix and where the contacts are arrayed in a single dimension in Figs. 4a and 7 and in col. 7, line 54-col. 8, lines 18. Brody discloses conductive pads (19) and thin film transistors (23), where the conductive pads are charged through the drains (27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the arrangement of the contacts for the row or

column of the display as Walsh discloses where contacts are present, but does not teach the arrangement of the contacts. The system of Walsh is combinable with that of Brody as both teach liquid crystal displays, and Brody teaches the contacts which would similar to what would have been used by Walsh as these connections are well known in the art.

As to dependent claim 3, limitations of claim 2, and further comprising, wherein the contacts for the pixel units belonging to two adjacent rows or columns in the matrix are arrayed in a single dimension between the two adjacent rows or columns. Walsh does not teach where the contacts for the pixel units belonging to two adjacent rows or columns in the matrix are arrayed in a single dimension between two adjacent rows or columns. In a similar field of endeavor, Brody discloses a flat screen color display comprising an active matrix and where the contacts are arrayed in a single dimension in Figs. 4a and 7 and in col. 7, line 54-col. 8, lines 18. Brody discloses conductive pads (19) and thin film transistors (23), where the conductive pads are charged through the drains (27). In Fig. 4a, Brody teaches where the contacts (27) are shown to be adjacent to one another. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the arrangement of the contacts for the row or column of the display as Walsh discloses where contacts are present, but does not teach the arrangement of the contacts. The system of Walsh is combinable with that of Brody as both teach liquid crystal displays, and Brody teaches the contacts which would similar to what would have been used by Walsh as these connections are well known in the art.

As to dependent claims 5 and 7, limitations of claims 1 and 6, and further comprising, wherein the pixel circuits each comprise a thin film transistor. Walsh does not disclose where the pixel circuits each comprise a thin film transistor. In a similar field of endeavor, Brody

discloses, in col. 7, lines 56, where each pixel comprises a thin film transistor. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to incorporate the thin film transistor of Brody into that of Walsh as Walsh discloses an active matrix display where known in the art would incorporate TFTs. The systems of Walsh and Brody are combinable as Brody teaches the properties of layers, which would be present in Walsh.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srilakshmi K. Kumar whose telephone number is 703 306 5575. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, xxxx xxxx can be reached on xxx xxx xxxx. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Srilakshmi K. Kumar
Examiner
Art Unit 2675

SKK
June 27, 2004


DENNIS-DOON CHOW
PRIMARY EXAMINER